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JES
S. Zimmerman

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Toshiro TSUCHIDA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3713

Appln. No. : 09/986,586

Examiner:

Filed : November 9, 2001

For : VIDEO GAME APPARATUS AND CONTROL METHOD THEREOF, AND
PROGRAM OF VIDEO GAME AND COMPUTER READABLE
RECORDING MEDIUM HAVING PROGRAM RECORDED THEREON

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

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FEB 10 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98, applicants call the following documents, which were cited in a Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal mailed on November 18, 2002 for Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-097576, to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-37558, published on February 8, 2000, together with an English language Abstract and an English language translation of paragraphs [0066]-[0076];

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 8-155145, published on June 18, 1996, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 11-244533, published on September 14, 1999, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

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Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2001-232056, published on August 28, 2001, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and

“Saishin PC Network Game Taizen”, Latest Network Game Guide, Shogakkan, January 1, 1999. Applicants note that a copy of an English language Abstract or translation of this document is not available at this time, however, a copy will be forwarded to the Examiner when a copy becomes available.

The pertinent portions of these documents are as noted on the attached copy of the Japanese Notification of Reasons for Refusal (together with an English language translation of the same).

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

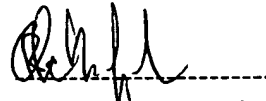
Further, applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Toshiro TSUCHIDA et al.

Reg. No. 40,063

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Bernstein", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

February 6, 2003
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